

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE
WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE 0499

S E C R E T STATE 194167

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MNUC, PK

SUBJECT: PAK AMBASSADOR'S CALL ON UNDERSECRETARY NEWSOM,
AUGUST 1

1. PAK AMBASSADOR YAQUB KHAN, AT HIS REQUEST, ACCOMPANIED
BY MINISTER HAYAT MEHDI CALLED ON UNDERSECRETARY NEWSOM
AUGUST 1. MEETING LASTED TWENTY MINUTES.

2. AMBASSADOR EXPLAINED HE WAS MAKING CALL PRIOR TO HIS
DEPARTURE FOR ISLAMABAD WHERE HE WOULD PARTICIPATE IN A
SERIES OF MEETINGS. YAQUB KHAN POINTED OUT THAT PAKISTAN
IS NOW AT A CRITICAL PERIOD AND GOP WILL BE CONSIDERING
POLICY OPTIONS. YAQUB KHAN SAID US-PAK RELATIONS, GHULAM
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ISHAQ'S TRIP TO MOSCOW, THE BELGRADE NON-ALIGNED MEETING,
THE AFGHAN SITUATION AND THE REPROCESSING ISSUE WOULD BE
AMONG SUBJECTS DISCUSSED IN ISLAMABAD. PAK AMBASSADOR TO
FRANCE WOULD ALSO BE PARTICIPATING IN THESE MEETINGS.

3. NEWSOM RESPONDED THAT HE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN SEEING
YAQUB KHAN UPON HIS RETURN. NEWSOM SAID HE WANTED TO

-LARIFY ISSUE THAT HAD COME UP AT HIS LUNCH WITH AMBASSADOR ON JULY 26 THIS CONCERNED POSITION OF US REGARDING THE INDIGINOUS REPROCESSING ACTIVITIES PAKISTAN MIGHT SEEK TO UNDERTAKE IF THE AGREEMENT WITH FRANCE WERE CANCELLED.

4. NEWSOM EXPLAINED THAT WITH REGARD TO REPROCESSING THERE IS BOTH A LEGAL AND A POLITICAL REALITY. THE LEGAL REALITY IS THE GLENN AMENDMENT, WHICH REFERS TO THE TRANSFER OF REPROCESSING TECHNOLOGY AND EQUIPMENT TO A COUNTRY FROM OUTSIDE. THE GLENN AMENDMENT WOULD BE TRIGGERED BY SUCH TRANSFERS TO PAKISTAN AND IT WAS IN ANTICIPATION OF THE GLENN AMENDMENT BEING TRIGGERED THAT CERTAIN DECISIONS WERE TAKEN IN WASHINGTON LAST YEAR. NEWSOM SAID THAT IN THE EVENT PAKISTAN DECIDED NOT TO GO FORWARD OR IN THE EVENT THAT CIRCUMSTANCES ARE SUCH THAT IT DOES NOT GO FORWARD WITH THE FRENCH PLANT, WE WOULD NOT REQUIRE A WRITTEN ASSURANCE OR A PUBLIC STATEMENT FROM THE GOP ON INDIGINOUS CONSTRUCTION. NEWSOM ADDED THAT WE UNDERSTAND THE POLITICAL PROBLEMS WHICH PAKISTAN FACES.

5. ALLUDING TO THE POLITICAL REALITY, NEWSOM SAID HOWEVER, WE WOULD BE REQUIRED TO CONSULT WITH CONGRESS. IN THESE CONSULTATIONS WE WOULD BE TAKING INTO ACCOUNT BOTH THE LANGUAGE OF THE GLENN AMENDMENT AND THE INTENT OF THE GLENN AMENDMENT AND WOULD HAVE TO PROVIDE CONGRESS WITH OUR ESTIMATE OF PAKISTAN'S FUTURE INTENTIONS ON REPROCESSING.

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6. YAQUB KHAN NOTED THAT BOTH HE AND NEWSOM WERE SPEAKING HYPOTHETICALLY. THE AMBASSADOR POINTED OUT THAT THE FRENCH HAVE MADE A DEMARCHE AND GOP HAS RESPONDED THAT IT DOES NOT ACQUIESCE TO THIS DEMARCHE. YAQUB KHAN SAID HE WAS PLEASED NEVERTHELESS TO HEAR NEWSOM'S CLARIFICATION BECAUSE HE WOULD HAVE HAD DIFFICULTY PERSUADING HIS GOVERNMENT THAT A US DEMAND FOR WRITTEN ASSURANCES WAS REASONABLE.

INDEED HE WOULD HAVE LOOKED UPON THIS AS A NEW CONDITION, NAMELY THAT GOP NOT SIN IN THE FUTURE. SUCH A CONDITION COULD BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE. PAK AMBASSADOR ADDED, MOREOVER THAT REQUEST NOT REALISTIC BECAUSE IF PAKISTAN REALLY WANTED TO GO AHEAD WITH REPROCESSING IT WOULD NOT MATTER HOW MANY ASSURANCES PAKISTAN PROVIDED.

7. NEWSOM CONCLUDED MEETING BY STRESSING THAT US IN SPIRIT OF ITS LONG ASSOCIATION WITH PAKISTAN DESIRED TO WORK ITS WAY OUT OF A SITUATION WHERE THE DESIRES AND POLICIES OF THE TWO GOVERNMENTS WERE IN CONFLICT. THE US IS NOT SEEKING TO PENALIZE PAKISTAN OR FORCE IT TO ADMIT PAST SHORTCOMING. RATHER THE US IS TRYING TO CLEAR

AWAY AN OBSTACLE AND IS TRYING TO FIND A FORMULA TO RESUME
NORMAL RELATIONS WITH PAKISTAN.

WAS GRATEFUL FOR NEWSOM'S STATEMENT. VANCE

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